

I support media diversity

I am writing to you today to comment on Docket No. 02-277, The Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules.

The power that the media has to shape public opinion in our society, and the level of concentration of media ownership in our, is already a source of concern and a threat to the very tenants of our democracy. The ability to carry on informed debate and discussion of current issues is a critical part of the strength of our nation. Our democracy is best served by a diverse marketplace of ideas.

The FCC's proposed rule making will to allow an even greater concentration of media ownership and will clearly not serve the public interest. In the present instance, the public interest will best be served by preserving existing media ownership rules. In the long term the public interest will be best served by tightening, not loosening ownership rules.

I strongly urge the FCC to hold additional hearings around the nation to solicit the widest possible participation from the public regarding any changes.

With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our democracy, it is incumbent on the Commission to take the time to review these issues more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in the process.

Thank you,

Basil R. Twist, Jr.
President
Champion Securities Company LLC